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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Rural Electrification Administration  
Washington 25, D. C.

July 1947

NEWSLETTER TOPICS

DON'T SHOOT -- A dangerous character is among you. Some of you may not even know of his presence. His depredations, over many months, may cost you a sizable sum. His activities are always a threat to your welfare.

This character is armed, usually with a small caliber rifle. If he's a boy, he may come from your neighbor's place, from a home in town--or even from your own household. Like others who commit offense against society, he's a product of poor or insufficient training. To reform him is the responsibility of us all.

The offense we refer to is the breaking of insulators along our power lines. A shot from this fellow's gun has too frequently caused interruptions in your power service. Losses to all consumers, figuring systems repair costs, inconvenience and lower efficiency in farm and household operations, might actually be measured by thousands of dollars.

As an example, early on Sunday morning January 26th, we received several telephone calls in the Lizella section advising us that the power was off. Our linemen left immediately and restored service as soon as possible but were delayed in getting to the breaker feeding this section due to the muddy roads.

About 2:00 P. M. January 30th, we were advised that the power was off in the same section again. After getting the truck stuck on the muddy roads several times (it was raining very hard at the time) the linemen finally reached the breaker feeding this section but were unable to restore the service due to some trouble on the line. This made it necessary to ride the line to locate the trouble. Between Russellville and the Bibb County line they found 13 insulators that had been shot by someone with a rifle, one of which caused the trouble.

At the last meeting of the Directors they decided to offer a \$100 reward with evidence to convict anyone shooting at insulators.

REPORT ALL CASES OF VANDALISM & LINE DAMAGE AS PROMPTLY AS YOU CAN! (Current Gossip, Lamar E.M.C., Barnesville, Ga.)

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DELIVERY DATE ON WIRE FOR B SECTION GIVEN -- Shipment of the wire for the B Section has been promised in August! However, the supplier states that they will do their utmost to make it a month earlier. It is hoped that a contractor can be working before the wire is delivered, installing guys, transformers, hardware and etc., so that when the wire arrives, he can put it up and the job will be done. Your cooperative wants this line completed just as quickly as you do, B Section Member. Why? Because the Co-op has a lot of money tied up in poles and anchors already installed, material that is crowding the office building and carrying extra insurance and of all this expenditure, naturally not a bit of revenue is coming in. Last but not least, the Cooperative wants to see you enjoying the benefits of electricity--which you need and deserve.....ODES AND ENDS -- Did someone say that REA Co-ops are tax exempt? Last year, your coop-



erative paid taxes amounting to \$638.18 and included property tax, social security tax and unemployment compensation tax. (Camas Co-op Flashes, Prairie Power Coop., Fairfield, Idaho)

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A SPECIAL THANKS TO YOU ALL --- Our thanks go to Lumir Husak who informed us of a pole that was uprooted due to a cave-in of the bank on which it had been set. This information enabled us to repair the damage before a possible outage could have occurred. Such information is gratefully appreciated by the District.

Elton Roe and Marten Goetsch also reported the washing out of the pole on the river crossing. Robert Siedschlag made a special trip to Stanton to notify us of a tree that was thrown into the line by his home. Others made calls and came into the office, giving us reports but their names were not secured. Nevertheless our thanks go to all of you.

Last but not least we wish to thank Ralph Anderson of Winside, for the hospitality shown to the maintenance crew by serving them a hot dinner. Ralph, the boys really appreciated the lift after walking private rightaway and climbing poles in the rain all morning locating a small branch of a tree that would put the line out intermittently after a shower of rain.

Trees, as many of you know, were the big cause for the outages during the big storm of June 9. Many of you people could help the Power District by cutting the high or dangerous trees near the line for wood to be used this winter. By doing so you can get fuel and it is also possible that it may eliminate an outage thus helping yourself and your neighbor.. (Hi-Lights, Stanton Rural P.P.D., Stanton, Nebraska)

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ELECTRICITY AND PEOPLE --- Co-op directors Raymond Trout and John Sander attended a Training Conference for Ohio co-op directors held at Magnetic Springs, February 27 and 28. They report a most profitable session.

Waldo Hanna, Co-op member, Rt. 1, Mt. Cory, builds and sells a mechanical seed potato cutter which does the work of eight men. Waldo was at the welding school and told us about this machine. He has applied for patents. We take off our hat to him for this achievement.

Co-op member, Dale Kelley, had four sows that raised 40 pigs during the zero weather early in February. He gives a lot of credit to his electric pig brooders.

The co-op manager spoke to the McComb Rotary Club March 4, telling the Rotarians about your co-op. He explained, among other things, that most co-ops, including ours do pay out a lot in taxes. Luse showed the Rotarians cancelled co-op tax checks from 1946 ranging in amounts from \$700.00 up to nearly \$6,000. Nuts to these guys who say we don't pay taxes. (Co-op Power News, Hancock-Wood E.C., North Baltimore, Ohio)

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CHECK WITH US BEFORE ADDING APPLIANCES -- One member came in about two o'clock one afternoon and stated that he was out of service. We checked his records and found that he had only a 1 1/2 kva transformer and that he had no heavy appliances. We then asked what work he had been doing. He said that he had been shelling corn. He then told us that he had purchased an electric motor for his elevator from a neighbor who had no use for it. We then checked through the list of appliances and found that he had also added an electric range, and electric water heater. He had been using both of these as well as the three horsepower motor on the elevator, with just the 1 1/2 kva transformer. Because of the shortage of appliances we felt that this member would not be able to secure heavy appliances to necessitate a larger transformer. If this member had notified us when he added these additional items we could have changed the transformer, and saved the cooperative about \$50.00 which was the cost of repairing the transformer. Transformers are the hardest item to secure at the present time. For example, we were promised 175 transformers the last quarter of 1946 and received only 13. (Greene Co. R.E.C., Jefferson, Iowa)

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<u>OPERATING STATISTICS FOR APRIL</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1947</u>
Number of Connected Consumers .....	2,444	2,544
Miles Energized .....	825.25	831.03
Density Per Mile .....	2.96	3.06
Average Monthly kwh Consumption ...	132	174
Average Monthly Bill	\$5.39	\$6.32
Average Cost per kwh to Members ...	4.1¢	3.6¢
Interest Payments to REA .....	\$764.10	\$666.66
Principal Payment to REA .....	\$2,254.45	\$2,638.15
Months of Operation .....	74	86

(Kankakee Valley News, Kankakee Valley R.E.M.C., Wantah, Indiana)

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LINE LOSSES -- It may interest you to know that of the total kwh purchased each month, over 25% is lost as far as resale is concerned. This we call line-loss. It is the difference in kwh registered by our power meter at our Delhi Sub-station and the total consumption as registered on all of your meters. It consists of the power used to keep all of the transformers, meters and wires energized and used in overcoming the resistance in all of these things. It is quite an item of expense amounting to about \$500.00 in April. For this reason we keep the lines in good shape and try not to have transformers larger than actually needed by the members on the line.... (Delaware County Electric Co-Op Newsletter, Delhi, N. Y.)

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SOW ELECTROCUTED -- The Associated Press on February 26th reported a "current event" that happened out near Cannon City, Colo. A farmer had a pig brooder and a sow with 11 pigs. The wire supplying the current was placed where the sow could chew it. She did. She died. Electrocuted. And the price of hogs was \$30 per cwt. (REA Reflector, Goodhue Co. Coop. Elec. Assn., Zumbrota, Minn.)

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RESIDENT ENGINEER'S REPORT ON CONSTRUCTION UNDER CONTRACT SINCE AUGUST 15, 1946

Contract .....	402 miles
Right of way cut to date .....	309 miles
Holes dug .....	226 miles
Poles hauled out .....	243 miles
Poles framed .....	220.7 miles
Poles set .....	224.3 miles
Guys & anchors in place .....	203.3 miles
Wire strung .....	113.8 miles
52.71 miles of line energized -- out of the	402 miles

(Co-op REA News, Four Co. E. M. C., Burgaw, North Carolina)

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LINE DAMAGE -- In our March bulletin we told you of a line outage east of Wakefield, which was caused by a truck striking a guy wire, and breaking the pole and conductor. A claim was filed with the truck company for the actual cost to repair this line, and the estimated loss of income during the time that the line was off. At the present time, neither the trucker, nor the Insurance Company have paid this account. Anyone hiring trucks in the future, should hire a trucker, who is willing to cooperate and pay damage done to public property by careless drivers. (Northeast Nebraska R.F.P.D., Emerson, Nebraska)

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DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS -- Believe it or not, over 150 Co-op members paid late and thus paid the 50¢ penalty last month. That is over \$75.00 in penalties which at 2¢ per kwh would have paid for an additional 3,750 kwh.

We now have several members disconnected for non-payment and among them are some who raised the most fuss when line construction was slow and they could not get service.

This problem is our toughest job in operating your co-op; but your Board of Directors has decreed that no one rides free on this co-op bandwagon, so you might as well get used to paying regularly and promptly.

If you have bad luck and want a month's grace, tell us about it. We work for all Co-op members and we want, always, to be reasonable..... (Delaware Co. Elec. Co-op, Delhi, N. Y.)

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LINE LOSSES -- ...A 50¢ penalty for late payment will buy enough power at 2¢ per kwh to run a new household refrigerator an entire month. Think it over! (Delaware Co. Elec. Co-op, Delhi, N. Y.)

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